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(CANAL)
(BY NICHOLAS DANILOFF)

## NEWS ANALYSIS SERVICE

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WASHINGTON (UPI) - A SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE - POSSIBLY BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATION PRESSURE - TODAY POSTPONED ITS SCHEDULED INQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS THAT U.S. AGENTS SPIED ON THE PANAMANIANS NEGOTIATING THE PANAMA CANAL ACCORDS.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE SEPARATION OF POWERS ABRUPTLY POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT WEEK A SCHEDULED CLOSED MEETING WITH CIA DIRECTOR STANSFIELD TURNER AND LT. GEN. EUGENE TIGHE, DEFENSE DEPARTMENT INTELLIGENCE CHIEF.

THE OFFICIAL REASON GIVEN WAS THAT SEN. JAMES EASTLAND, D-MISS., CHAIRMAN OF THE PARENT JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, HAD A PRIOR COMMITMENT.

RELIABLE SOURCES SAID, HOWEVER, THE ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN EXERCISING PRESSURE ON THE SUBCOMMITTE, CHAIRED BY SEN. JAMES ALLEN, D-ALA., TO QUASH THE INVESTIGATION BECAUSE OF ITS POTENTIALLY EMBARRASSING IMPLICATIONS FOR SENATE RATIFICATION OF THE CONTROVERSIAL TREATIES.

THE SOURCES SAID AN INQUIRY, EITHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, COULD LEAD TO THE DISCLOSURE OF CRUCIAL INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS.

OTHER SOURCES SAID TURNER AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION WITNESSES HAD INDICATED TO THE PANEL, WHILE THEY WERE WILLING TO APPEAR, THEY WOULD NOT PRODUCE SOME OF THE REQUESTED DOCUMENTS.

MEANWHILE, THE TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY BROCK ADAMS TODAY URGED THE SENATE PROMPTLY TO RATIFY THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES.

"A SHIPPER'S DECISION TO USE THE CANAL WILL DEPEND ON THE COMPETITIVENESS OF ALTERNATIVE ROUTES AND MODES OF TRANSPORTATION," ADAMS SAID IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. "THESE MARKETPLACE DECISIONS SHOULD BE MADE IN A CLIMATE OF CERTAINTY REGARDING THE WATERWAY.

"IF POTENTIAL USERS ARE ASSURED THAT THE CANAL WILL CONTINUE TO BE OPERATED EFFICIENTLY AND THAT ITS CAPACITY WILL BE INCRESED IF ECONOMICALLY JUSTIFIED, THEN THE CANAL HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT TRANSPORTATION LINK."

ATTORNEY GENERAL GRIFFIN BELL TOLD THE COMMITTEE THURSDAY THE UNITED STATES HAS, IN THE PAST, TAKEN SUCH ACTIONS WITHOUT A HOUSE VOTE, BUT A LIBRARY OF CONGRESS REPORT RELEASED BY SEN. WILLIAM SCOTT, R-VA., SAID APPROVAL BY BOTH HOUSE AND SENATE WAS OBLIGATORY.

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